

2SHB 2498 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on International Trade & Economic Development

ADOPTED 03/01/2006

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 43.330.090 and 2005 c 136 s 14 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The department shall work with private sector organizations,  
6 industry and cluster associations, federal agencies, state agencies  
7 that use a cluster-based approach to service delivery, local  
8 governments, local associate development organizations, and higher  
9 education and training institutions (~~(to assist)~~) in the development of  
10 industry cluster-based strategies to diversify the economy, facilitate  
11 technology transfer and diffusion, and increase value-added production  
12 (~~(by focusing on targeted sectors)~~). The industry clusters targeted  
13 (~~(sectors)~~) by the department may include, but are not limited to,  
14 (~~(software, forest products, biotechnology, environmental industries,~~  
15 ~~recycling markets and waste reduction, aerospace, food processing,~~  
16 ~~tourism, film and video, microelectronics, new materials, robotics, and~~  
17 ~~machine tools)~~) aerospace, agriculture, food processing, forest  
18 products, marine services, health and biomedical, software, digital and  
19 interactive media, transportation and distribution, and  
20 microelectronics. The department shall, on a continuing basis,  
21 evaluate the potential return to the state from devoting additional  
22 resources to (~~(a targeted sector's)~~) an industry cluster-based approach  
23 to economic development and (~~(including)~~) identifying and assisting  
24 additional (~~(sectors in its efforts)~~) clusters. The department shall  
25 use information gathered in each service delivery region in formulating  
26 its (~~(sectoral)~~) industry cluster-based strategies and (~~(in designating~~  
27 ~~new targeted sectors)~~) shall assist local communities in identifying  
28 regional industry clusters and developing industry cluster-based  
29 strategies.

1 (2) The department shall pursue a coordinated program to expand the  
2 tourism industry throughout the state in cooperation with the public  
3 and private tourism development organizations. The department, in  
4 operating its tourism program, shall:

5 (a) Promote Washington as a tourism destination to national and  
6 international markets to include nature-based and wildlife viewing  
7 tourism;

8 (b) Provide information to businesses and local communities on  
9 tourism opportunities that could expand local revenues;

10 (c) Assist local communities to strengthen their tourism  
11 partnerships, including their relationships with state and local  
12 agencies;

13 (d) Provide leadership training and assistance to local communities  
14 to facilitate the development and implementation of local tourism  
15 plans;

16 (e) Coordinate the development of a statewide tourism and marketing  
17 plan. The department's tourism planning efforts shall be carried out  
18 in conjunction with public and private tourism development  
19 organizations including the department of fish and wildlife and other  
20 appropriate agencies. The plan shall specifically address mechanisms  
21 for: (i) Funding national and international marketing and nature-based  
22 tourism efforts; (ii) interagency cooperation; and (iii) integrating  
23 the state plan with local tourism plans.

24 (3) The department may, in carrying out its efforts to expand the  
25 tourism industry in the state:

26 (a) Solicit and receive gifts, grants, funds, fees, and endowments,  
27 in trust or otherwise, from tribal, local or other governmental  
28 entities, as well as private sources, and may expend the same or any  
29 income therefrom for tourism purposes. All revenue received for  
30 tourism purposes shall be deposited into the tourism development and  
31 promotion account created in RCW 43.330.094;

32 (b) Host conferences and strategic planning workshops relating to  
33 the promotion of nature-based and wildlife viewing tourism;

34 (c) Conduct or contract for tourism-related studies;

35 (d) Contract with individuals, businesses, or public entities to  
36 carry out its tourism-related activities under this section;

37 (e) Provide tourism-related organizations with marketing and other  
38 technical assistance;

1 (f) Evaluate and make recommendations on proposed tourism-related  
2 policies.

3 (4)(a) The department shall promote, market, and encourage growth  
4 in the production of films and videos, as well as television  
5 commercials within the state; to this end the department is directed to  
6 assist in the location of a film and video production studio within the  
7 state.

8 (b) The department may, in carrying out its efforts to encourage  
9 film and video production in the state, solicit and receive gifts,  
10 grants, funds, fees, and endowments, in trust or otherwise, from  
11 tribal, local, or other governmental entities, as well as private  
12 sources, and may expend the same or any income therefrom for the  
13 encouragement of film and video production. All revenue received for  
14 such purposes shall be deposited into the film and video promotion  
15 account created in RCW 43.330.092.

16 (5) In assisting in the development of ~~((a targeted sector))~~  
17 regional and statewide industry cluster-based strategies, the  
18 department's activities ~~((may))~~ shall include, but are not limited to:

19 (a) ~~((Conducting))~~ Facilitating regional focus group discussions~~((~~  
20 ~~facilitating meetings,~~) and conducting studies to identify ~~((members~~  
21 ~~of the sector))~~ industry clusters, appraise the current ~~((state of the~~  
22 ~~sector))~~ information linkages within a cluster, and identify issues of  
23 common concern within ~~((the sector))~~ a cluster;

24 (b) Supporting ~~((the formation of))~~ industry and cluster  
25 associations, publications of association and cluster directories, and  
26 related efforts to create or expand the activities ~~((or))~~ of industry  
27 and cluster associations;

28 (c) ~~((Assisting in the formation of flexible networks by providing~~  
29 ~~(i) agency employees or private sector consultants trained to act as~~  
30 ~~flexible network brokers and (ii) funding for potential flexible~~  
31 ~~network participants for the purpose of organizing or implementing a~~  
32 ~~flexible network;~~

33 ~~(d) Helping establish research consortia;~~

34 ~~(e) Facilitating joint training and education programs;~~

35 ~~(f) Promoting cooperative market development activities;~~

36 ~~(g) Analyzing the need, feasibility, and cost of establishing~~  
37 ~~product certification and testing facilities and services; and~~

1       ~~(h) Providing for methods of electronic communication and~~  
2 ~~information dissemination among firms and groups of firms to facilitate~~  
3 ~~network activity)) Administering a competitive grant program to fund~~  
4 activities designed to further regional cluster growth. In  
5 administering the program, the department shall work with an industry  
6 cluster advisory committee with equal representation from the work  
7 force training and education coordinating board, the state board for  
8 community and technical colleges, the employment security department,  
9 business, and labor.

10       (i) The industry cluster advisory committee shall recommend  
11 criteria for evaluating applications for grant funds and recommend  
12 applicants for receipt of grant funds.

13       (ii) Applicants must include organizations from at least two  
14 counties and participants from the local business community. Eligible  
15 organizations include, but are not limited to, local governments,  
16 economic development councils, chambers of commerce, federally  
17 recognized Indian tribes, work force development councils, and  
18 educational institutions.

19       (iii) Applications must evidence financial participation of the  
20 partner organizations.

21       (iv) Priority shall be given to applicants which will use the grant  
22 funds to build linkages and joint projects, to develop common resources  
23 and common training, and to develop common research and development  
24 projects or facilities.

25       (v) The maximum amount of a grant is one hundred thousand dollars.

26       (vi) A maximum of one hundred thousand dollars total can go to  
27 King, Pierce, Kitsap, and Snohomish counties combined.

28       (vii) No more than ten percent of funds received for the grant  
29 program may be used by the department for administrative costs.

30       (6) As used in subsection (5) of this section, "industry cluster"  
31 means a geographic concentration of interdependent competitive firms  
32 that do business with each other. "Industry cluster" also includes  
33 firms that sell inside and outside of the geographic region as well as  
34 support firms that supply raw materials, components, and business  
35 services."

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1        On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "development;" strike the  
2 remainder of the title and insert "and amending RCW 43.330.090."

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